



CALGARY PHILHAR



Arts Commons Maintains Audience Vaccination Requirements Until Further Notice

A joint statement from Arts Commons and the resident companies confirms the organizations will continue implementing audience vaccination checks when attending indoor performances.

February 10, 2022 CALGARY – In light of the Alberta government's cancellation of the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) as of February 9, 2022, Arts Commons and the resident companies – including Alberta Theatre Projects, Arts Commons Presents, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Downstage, One Yellow Rabbit Performance Theatre and Theatre Calgary – have decided to temporarily extend the Arts Commons Audience Mask and Vaccination Policy, put into effect on September 20, 2021. As a result, we will continue to require any staff member, artist, or audience member inside Arts Commons venues, including all community events and rental events, to be fully vaccinated or to present a negative COVID-19 test taken within the past 72 hours. <u>Full policy details are available here</u>.

The impacted venues at Arts Commons include Big Secret Theatre, Engineered Air Theatre, Jack Singer Concert Hall, Martha Cohen Theatre, Max Bell Theatre, and Motel Theatre.

Furthermore, following the latest public health updates, Arts Commons will adhere to updated venue capacity limitations and will remove limits on bar sales currently applied to some of our spaces, allowing all venues to, once again, operate with food and beverage sales and consumption in our lobbies before patrons take their seats, effective immediately.

Nothing would give Arts Commons and its resident companies greater joy than to allow unrestricted access to the transformational power of the arts. That said, as the cancellation of the REP still allows for individual organizations to enforce their own health and safety policies as they see fit, the decision to implement this extension was made to satisfy existing agreements with contracted artists and ticket holders, as well as to exercise our due diligence in making the best decisions possible for our venues and audiences. Arts Commons and resident company leadership will continue to engage our community to assess their comfort levels and seek guidance from health and safety experts on policies moving forward. We strive to communicate any operational changes that may result from those conversations as soon as possible.

To view Arts Commons' full health and safety guidelines, please click here.